Press release

PRINTABLE VERSION

The "Mobile" Met. Office - weather on the move

15 September 2000

Release number 429

The latest marine weather information can now be yours at the touch of a mobile phone button wherever and whenever you need it, on land or at sea.

The new forecasts from The Met. Office cover more than 2,500 areas, each three miles square, and show wind speed, direction and gusts, visibility, rainfall and temperature.

Forecasts can be provided on any mobile network, and customers can choose specific locations around the UK coast, choose when they want the information and specify whether they want 'Time and Place' forecasts, Coastal Waters forecasts for the south coast, the Shipping Forecast - all thirty areas - or Coastal Station reports.

The Met. Office is demonstrating the new services for mobile phone users on its stand at the Southampton International Boat Show. Visitors can experiment with the mobile phones which have been programmed to receive the marine information automatically.

The cost of the new service ranges from ten pence to fifty pence for a single forecast. The Shipping Forecast will be completely free for people who use WAP.

To set up and use the new service go to www.met-office.gov.uk/marine, or visit The Met. Office stand today.

Notes:

'Time and Place ' forecast offers the latest marine weather forecasts to your mobile phone, no matter which network you use, SMS and WAP for Vodafone, Orange, BT Cellnet, One-2-One and Virgin. The services offers forecasts for 2,500 areas around the coast on a hour-by-hour basis for the next six hours. The forecasts are updated hourly and are for inshore areas up to six miles from the coast, and 16 miles from the coast at 100 popular coastal sites.

'Time and Place' forecasts can be given for wherever you want, including predefined points or a position from a GPS unit.

For further information:
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